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BOOK DEPARTMENT.

NOTES.

A VALUABLE ADDITION to recent literature treating of the industrial history of England is Professor Cheyney's "Social Changes in England in the Sixteenth Century as Reflected in Contemporary Literature."* This work is all that the title indicates and considerably more. In an opening chapter the author gives an exceedingly lucid and well-balanced account of the English manorial system as it existed down to the sixteenth century. Condensed into twenty pages, this is as good a description of English agricultural conditions in the Middle Ages as has yet been written, and supplies an admirable basis for the consideration of the references to contemporary literature which are mustered in the second chapter and form the body of the book. Beginning with John Ross' "Warwickshire Antiquary," which appeared about 1460, Professor Cheyney makes use of nearly every contemporary authority of importance down to the "Petition of the Diggers of Warwickshire," which was presented about 1598. Citations are drawn from nearly fifty contemporary sources and the result is a more vivid picture of the industrial changes leading up to and following the numerous inclosures of this period than it would be possible to give by any other method. Professor Cheyney's conclusions are conservative. The period from 1475 to 1575 is shown to have been a period of rapid change and development in comparison with the centuries which preceded. These changes represented progress, but fell with peculiar hardship on the lower classes of agricultural laborers who adjusted themselves but slowly to the new conditions, when sheep-raising displaced agriculture and manufacturing and city-life came forward prominently. By the end of the sixteenth century the readjustment was effected and the England which emerged in the seventeenth century was a new world, industrially, socially and politically. This monograph will be especially useful to students of English industrial history since it gives them in compact form the contemporary literary references to the rural changes which characterized this important period.

* *Social Changes in England in the Sixteenth Century as Reflected in Contemporary Literature.* Part I. *Rural Changes.* By EDWARD P. CHEYNEY, A. M. Publications of the University of Pennsylvania, Series in Philology, Literature and Archæology. Vol. iv, No. 2. Pp. 114. Price, \$1.00. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1895.

THE FIRST VOLUME of Mr. Foster's "Commentaries on the Constitution," * gives some idea of the magnitude of the work which the author has undertaken. In this volume of some 715 pages, questions introductory to the study of constitutional law are treated; such are, the general nature of federal constitutions; formation of the Constitution of the United States; the meaning of the Preamble; the three departments of the government; Congress—its members and officers. If the present plan is followed, the work, when completed, will form a running commentary on our organic law. This seems to be the purpose the author has in view. Little or no attempt has been made to treat the general questions of constitutional law in their relation to one another, nor to examine their growth from the standpoint of the public law.

"THE BUILDING OF THE NATION," † by Henry Gannett, may be looked upon as a popular Compendium of the Census by one who has borne an honorable share in the preparation of the official document. The style is somewhat more pyrotechnic than becomes that of a government document, but the matter is essentially the same. Successive chapters treat of National Domain, Government, Population, Agriculture, Manufactures, Mineral Resources, Transportation, Finance and Wealth. This descriptive matter forms the basis of the work, though there are a few words of introductory generalization under the caption, "An Industrial Republic," while at the close the author drops into prophecy and gives a highly colored "Forecast of the Future." But gorgeous language and the gorgeous binding of the book cannot affect the solid basis of fact upon which it is built up. Mr. Gannett is primarily a geographer, and includes in full the geographical data which he has made familiar to us in the Census publications. Statisticians are generally agreed that this is useless ballast, which might give place to matter of more value.

WE SURELY HAVE to thank Mr. Godkin's publishers for having persuaded him to put his "Reflections" ‡ into a more permanent, or, at

* *Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States, Historical and Judicial: With Observations upon the Ordinary Provisions of State Constitutions, and a Comparison with the Constitution of Other Countries.* By ROGER FOSTER. Pp. 713. Price, \$4.50. Boston: Boston Book Company, 1895.

† *The Building of the Nation.* By HENRY GANNETT, Chief Geographer of the Geological Survey and of the Eleventh Census. Pp. 252. Price, \$2.50. New York: Henry T. Thomas Company, 1895.

‡ *Reflections and Comments, 1865-1895.* By EDWIN LAWRENCE GODKIN. Pp. 328. Price, \$2.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1895.

least, more convenient shape than the files of a weekly periodical running over thirty years could give them. They are selected from the author's editorial contributions to the *Nation* and they deal with a great variety of non-political subjects, both "grave and gay," that have at one time and another interested the American people since the close of the Civil War. They show us the editor of the *Nation* at his best and in his most genial moods. These short essays cover a charming variety of topics—"Culture and War," "The 'Comic Paper' Question," "The Morals and Manners of the Kitchen," "John Stuart Mill," "Panics," "Tyndall and the Theologians," "Chromo-Civilization," "The Debtor Class," "Physical Force in Politics," "The Evolution of the Summer Resort" and numerous other unrelated, incongruous subjects. They are light and airy, and deal with transient superficial social phenomena—sort of post-prandial productions—with this important difference: they are the productions of one whose vision is keen and far-seeing, whose pen is sharp and whose capacity for trenchant statement is seldom equaled. These "Reflections" form a genuine and substantial contribution to that class of literature which gives us acute criticisms of social and political life unaccompanied by ponderous reasoning that is fast going out of vogue in these fearfully scientific and abstrusely theoretical days. Apropos of the daily Jeremiads on the uncertainties of trade, the wrecks of industry and the wickedness of man, the following sentence from "Panics" may not prove untimely or uninteresting, coming from one not given to overweening optimism: "To any one who understands what this new social force, Credit, is, and the part it plays in human affairs, the wonder is, not that it gives way so seldom, but that it stands so firm; that these hundreds of millions of laborers, artisans, shopkeepers, merchants, bankers and manufacturers hold so firmly from day to day the countless engagements into which they enter, and that each recurring year the result of the prodigious effort which is now put forth in the civilized world in the work of production, should be distributed with so much accuracy and honesty and, on the whole, with so much wise adjustment to the value of each man's contributions to civilization."

THE SECOND VOLUME of Gomel's useful treatise* upon the financial causes of the French Revolution has appeared and the work has been *couronné* by the French Academy and by the *Académie des Sciences morales et politiques*. The first volume has already been described

* *Les Causes financières de la Révolution française.* Par CHARLES GOMEL. Paris: Guillaumin et Cie, 1893.

in the *ANNALS*.* The present one deals with the period between the dismissal of Necker (1781) and the assembling of the Estates General. M. Gomel tells his story in a characteristically lucid style. While adhering closely to his theme he manages, without diverting the reader's attention, to trace at the same time the changing attitude of the public toward the government. The history of the revolution can, perhaps, be best approached from the financial side. The political movement, which began at least two years before the meeting of the Estates General, was the result of a financial crisis and, as M. Gomel remarks, who knows but the violent overthrow of the older system might not have been avoided had Louis XV. been followed by a monarch preserving even ordinary insight and strength of character. Our author treads a well-beaten path. He is no lover of paradox and the reader looking for new and suggestive restatements of the well-known antecedents of the revolution will be disappointed. Turgot, Necker, Bailly and Droz seem long ago to have discovered and presented the really salient characteristics of the period.

MACMILLAN & Co. publish a small volume by William Gow, Underwriter of the Marine Insurance Company of Liverpool, on the question of marine insurance.† The volume contains the substance of a course of lectures delivered at the University Club under the auspices of the Liverpool Board of Legal Studies. The intricate questions of the extent and limitation of liabilities of the companies and the rights of the insured are examined with great care.

THE TENDENCY of the legislative branch of government to gradually absorb all essential powers to itself has frequently led to doleful protests on the part of political writers. In his monograph ‡ on the control over legislation in the United States and its members, Professor Hershey has given a succinct account of the various devices and organs which counteract this tendency. He discusses in turn the veto, the right of the judiciary to pass upon the constitutionality of legislation, and the direct participation of the people in legislation through constitutional conventions and various forms of referendum.

* Vol. iii, p. 381. November, 1892.

† *Marine Insurance*. By WM. GOW. Pp. 401, Price \$1.50. New York and London: Macmillan & Co., 1895.

‡ *Die Kontrolle über die Gesetzgebung in den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord-Amerika und deren Gliedern*. By DR. AMOS S. HERSHEY. Pp. 73. Heidelberg: Hörnung, 1895.

Prepared in Germany, without access to original sources of information, such an essay must necessarily be a summary. It is, however, a good summary, and has the merit of combining in a single treatment all the checks upon legislative activity which our constitutional development has produced.

ONE OF THE MOST useful bibliographies of the social sciences published is the "*Bibliographia sociologica*,"* now in its fifth year, and of which the first two numbers for 1895 have just been received. The editors of this bibliography have recently adopted the Dewey system of classification in the arrangement of titles, and introduce the present number with a brief explanation of the advantages of this change. The bibliography embraces over four thousand titles and is practically exhaustive for French, German and English literature. The references to periodical literature are especially full, and will make this publication invaluable to students of special social problems.

THE LOWELL LECTURES, delivered this year, on "The Church in the First Three Centuries,"† have been published with the addition of illustrative quotations. The lecturer limited himself to stating the facts in a clear and interesting manner, and did not attempt any original contributions. The result is an excellent example of what such work should be. Only two criticisms suggest themselves. On matters of dispute Mr. Moxom does not often state that there is an opposite view; and in some cases, *e. g.*, use of penances, he fails to discuss germs which are of importance on account of their later developments.

The bibliographical note is unsatisfactory. It is limited to English works and even of the English books, "Cruttwell," "Gwatkin," and other important works are omitted. And any such list ought to be more than a mere aggregation of titles. Sources should be distinguished from secondary works and the latter should be classified according to their merit.

JUST NOW, WHEN American manufacturers are beginning to complain that they cannot hold their own in certain directions against

* *Bibliographia sociologica. Sociologie et Droit. Sommaire méthodique des traités et des revues.* By H. LA FONTAINE and P. OTLET. Pp. xxiii, 170. Price, 10 francs. Brussels, 1895.

† *From Jerusalem to Nicæa.* By PHILIP STAFFORD MOXOM. Pp. xii, 457. Price, \$1.50. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1895.

Japanese competition, the recent monograph of Dr. Oscar Münsterberg* upon Japan's Foreign Trade from 1542 to 1854 is peculiarly welcome. In spite of his inability to make use of the native sources, the author of this monograph has brought to light a very extensive literature bearing upon Japan's trade relations with other countries and the account which he gives us of Japan's foreign relations is fairly complete. The most extended period is from 1640 to 1855, when Japan attempted to maintain a policy of complete non-intercourse with the outside world. It is to be regretted that Dr. Münsterberg did not enlarge the scope of his monograph so as to include the last forty years of Japan's history and thus make his survey of more than historical interest.

PERSONS INTERESTED IN fundamental questions concerning the functions of government will find pleasure and profit in a little volume, "Anarchy or Government?" † by William M. Salter. Anarchy is here used as signifying "freedom from organized force imposing itself on society." Admitting that this is the ideal state of society and that the abstract presumption is against government, the author inquires on what grounds and how far a community may use force in attaining its ends and finds the chief justification for nearly all the functions, at present exercised without question, in the fact that the individuals in society "are not mere units, but members of a somewhat beyond themselves." He repudiates all idea of a contractual relation. In the industrial field we now have, with scarcely any exception, "anarchy" and the enlargement of government functions to cover parts or all of this field is often opposed, especially by Spencer, on grounds which would logically lead to the abolition of all government except for defensive warfare. The author concludes that as to how far a society may go in securing social welfare, no line of principle can be drawn. How far freedom of contract shall be permitted and what industrial functions the state shall assume, are questions of expediency. While there are decidedly questionable propositions here and there, the main line of argument and the theoretical conclusion reached seem entirely sound.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION of South Carolina, which went into effect on the thirty-first of December, 1895, contains many important changes

* *Japans Auswärtiger Handel von 1542 bis 1854*. By Dr. OSCAR MÜNSTERBERG. Pp. xxxviii, 312. Price, 7 marks. Münchener Volkswirtschaftliche Studien. Heraus gegeben von Lujo Brentano und Walther Lotz. Stuttgart, 1896.

† *Anarchy or Government?* By WILLIAM MACKINTIRE SALTER. Pp. 176. Price, \$1.75. New York and Boston: T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1895.

which reflect the peculiar social conditions in that State. Perhaps the most striking is the restriction of the electoral franchise, so as to exclude the illiterate population. The amendment, as actually adopted, will probably have, as immediate effect, the disenfranchisement of a large percentage of the colored population. A general provision is inserted that every elector must be able to read and write any part of the constitution; or, if unable to do this, must have paid taxes on assessed property of a value of at least \$300. This is modified by a curious qualification, intended probably to enable the illiterate white population to become electors. It is provided that "up to January 1, 1898, all male persons of voting age applying for registration, who can read any section in the constitution submitted to them by the registration officers, *or understand and explain it when read to them by the registration officer*, shall be entitled to register and become electors." Such persons are to remain, during life, qualified electors, unless disqualified by other provisions of the constitution. A right of appeal from the decision of the registration officers to the Court of Common Pleas, and thence to the Supreme Court, is provided for.

THE SECOND VOLUME of the new, revised edition of Villari's "*Niccolò Machiavelli e i suoi Tempi*" * has been issued by Hoepli, of Milan. While the type is smaller than that of the first edition the paper and printing in the present issue are much better. The author has made a number of changes in detail and taken account of the criticisms which his book called forth; for example of the late Professor Baumgarten's views of the *Prince*. A number of new documents have been included in the appendix, among others autograph marginal criticisms made by Queen Christina, of Sweden, upon the *Prince*. A third volume has still to be revised in order to complete the work.

MR. WEBSTER'S TREATISE on the "Law of Naturalization" † forms a companion volume to the same author's work on the "Law of Citizenship in the United States." The author discusses in great detail the relation between laws governing emigration and naturalization and, in this connection, lays down the principle that "complete naturaliza-

* *Niccolò Machiavelli e i suoi Tempi-illustrati con nuovi documenti*. By PASQUALE VILLARI. Second edition, revised and corrected. Vol. ii. Price of the three volumes, 15 lire. Milan: Hoepli, 1895.

† *The Law of Naturalization in the United States of America and of Other Countries*. By PRENTISS WEBSTER, A. M. Pp. 423. Price, \$4.00. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1895.

tion, in the international sense, exists only when, in absolute good faith, all the rules which govern emigration from the country of origin . . . are complied with." The right of expatriation, in so far as it is a recognized legal right, is fully considered. The author then proceeds to take up the various stages leading to naturalization in the United States and, in the concluding chapters, describes the process in the countries of Europe and South America. A special feature of the book is the excellent analytical index which enables one to refer with great ease to the great number of legal questions connected with this subject.

REVIEWS.

The Canadian Banking System, 1817-1890. By R. M. BRECKENRIDGE, Ph.D. Publications of the American Economic Association. Vol. X., Nos. 1, 2, 3. Pp. 476. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1895.

Dr. Breckenridge's bulky volume on the Canadian Banking System represents much intelligent industry, rendering information available that has hitherto been scattered among government records, forgotten pamphlets and magazine articles. It is more than a mere history or description of banking experiments in Canada. It presents with considerable fullness the arguments pro and con made at the various intervals during which the Canadian banking system has undergone revision. The book, in a way, therefore, constitutes a treatise upon the principles of banking, for these principles have received a thorough exposition during the discussion of banking reform in Canada. On this account, since the banking question is still unsolved in this country and bids fair soon to be uppermost in politics, Mr. Breckenridge's work is timely and valuable.

The development of banking in Canada, unlike that in the United States, has been continuous, and in the existing system there still linger features or provisions which were first put to the test by the earliest banks established in the colonies. The National Banking System of the United States was born of a crisis, having been at first essentially a device in succor of the National Treasury. The growth of banking in Canada has been affected by no such extraneous motives. As a rule, changes in the Canadian system have been made solely for the purpose of improving it. The experience, therefore, of Canada is much more helpful to the student than the experience of the United States, where banks have too often been used either as spoils of politics or as expedients in government financing.